

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-06 EA-07

NEA-10 /093 W

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O P 100305Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5779

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, SO, FR, FT

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DJIBOUTI INCIDENT

1. AMBASSADOR BENNETT, ACTING AS PRESIDENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL, MET WITH SOMALI PERMREP HUSSEIN MORNING FEBRUARY 9, AS HAD BEEN AGREED FEBRUARY 6. HUSSEIN OFFICIALLY INFORMED SC PRESIDENT THAT SOMALIA HAD SUCCEEDED AT LAST IN LOCATING AND LIBERATING KIDNAPPED CHILD. YET, THE REASONS FOR WHICH SOMALIA HAD REQUESTED A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING REMAIN VALID. HAD COMMUNICATIONS BEEN BETTER, SOMALIA WOULD HAVE BEEN THE FIRST TO ASK FOR SUCH A MEETING. SOMALIA STILL INSISTS UPON A MEETING, REGARDLESS OF THERELEASE OF THE CHILD, SINCE "BASIC ELEMENTS FOR TENSION REMAIN," AND SUGGESTS THAT SUCH A MEETING BE HELD MORNING FEBRUARY 10 OR, AS SECOND PREFERENCE, AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 10. SOMALIA HAS A SPECIAL ENVOY (LATER IDENTIFIED AS ABDULLAHI SAID OSMAN) ARRIVING NEW YORK EVENING FEBRUARY 9. HUSSEIN THEN DESCRIBED DJIBOUTI INCIDENT AS A FRENCH ATTACK RESULTING IN DESTRUCTION AND DEATH AT SOMALI CUSTOMS POST.

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HUSSEIN SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS "VERY MUCH WORRIED ABOUT

INTENTIONS FOR FUTURE," THAT THE GOS DID NOT SUPPORT ACT OF TERRORISM, HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, AND DEPLORED IT.

2. DURING DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR BENNETT, HUSSEIN INDICATED THAT HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO BOTH FRENCH AND SOMALI COMPLAINTS APPEARING ON SC AGENDA, WITH FRENCH GIVEN PRIORITY. HE DID ASK THAT SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MAKE THE POINT THAT WHILE FRANCE HAD ASKED FOR A MEETING, ITS REQUEST WAS LEFT ON THE TABLE AND THAT CURRENT MEETING WAS OCCASIONED BY SOMALI REQUEST.

3. AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING WITH FRENCH, AMBASSADOR BENNETT INFORMED AMBASSADOR DE GUIRINGAUD OF FOREGOING. DE GUIRINGAUD SAID THE FRENCH HAD NO OBJECTION BUT INSISTED THAT EVENTUAL FORMAL MEETING BE BASED UPON FRENCH COMPLAINT, DESPITE FACT THAT, AS FAR AS FRENCH ARE CONCERNED, "INCIDENT IS OVER." BUT, CONTINUED DE GUIRINGAUD, IF SOMALIA INSISTED, HE WOULD POINT OUT HOW PLOT ORIGINATED IN SOMALIA AND THAT FOR FIRST 36 HOURS SOMALIA DID NOTHING TO HELP. DE GUIRINGAUD SUGGESTED THAT AGENDA HAVE NO TITLE BUT THEN AGREED THAT TITLE MIGHT REFER TO "THE INCIDENT OF FEBRUARY 4." DE GUIRINGAUD THEN REQUESTED FORMAL MEETING OF COUNCIL AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 9, IN ORDER TO ENABLE HIM TO SET FORTH FRENCH POSITION. AMBASSADOR BENNETT REPLIED THAT COUNCIL WOULD MEET FIRST IN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AT 3:30PM FEBRUARY 9, TO DISCUSS TIMING. DE GUIRINGAUD SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW, THERE WAS NO NEED FOR FRENCH TO MEET BEFORE THAT TIME WITH SOMALI PERMREP. (SOMALIS HAD INDICATED TO US BEFOREHAND THAT THEY DID NOT SEE SPECIAL NEED TO MEET WITH FRENCH.)
MOYNIHAN

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